

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BONN 06104 151706Z

61

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /057 W

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R 151659Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9413

INFO USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 06104

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, GE, UK, UR

SUBJECT: EXFILTRATION FROM GDR--CASE OF UK SUBJECT  
ALAN WATSON

REF: BONN 19431, DEC. 18, 1974

1. UK EMBASSY BONN HAS INFORMED US THAT WATSON  
(ERRONEOUSLY REPORTED EARLIER AS JOHN WATSON) WAS  
RELEASED FROM GDR PRISON MARCH 18. HE HAD BEEN ARRESTED  
IN KREIS POTSDAM ON MARCH 4, 1974 AND WAS SENTENCED BY A  
GDR COURT ON MAY 31, 1974 TO A FOUR AND ONE-HALF YEAR  
SENTENCE FOR "STAATSFEINDLICHER MENSCHENHANDEL". AS IT  
TURNED OUT, WATSON APPARENTLY HAD NOT BEEN OPERATING WITH  
ORGANIZED ESCAPE HELPERS, BUT HAD BEEN INTERESTED IN  
GETTING HIS GIRLFRIEND OUT OF THE GDR. AS REPORTED  
EARLIER, WATSON HAD BEEN INCLUDED WITH SUSAN BALLANTINE  
IN PM WILSON'S PERSONAL LETTER TO SINDERMAN REQUESTING  
THEIR RELEASE FROM PRISON.  
HILLENBRAND

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DETENTION, EXFILTRATION, ARRESTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 15 APR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MartinML  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975BONN06104  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750132-0101  
**From:** BONN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750447/aaaabrpb.tel  
**Line Count:** 51  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 1  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 BONN 19431, 75 DE18, 75 1974  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** MartinML  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 18 APR 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <18 APR 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <17 SEP 2003 by MartinML>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** EXFILTRATION FROM GDR--CASE OF UK SUBJECT ALAN WATSON  
**TAGS:** PGOV, PFOR, GC, UK, UR, (WATSON, ALAN), (BALLANTINE, SUSAN)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006